

**Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Determination  
under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) for:  
Proposed Material Alterations to the Portarlington Draft Joint Local Area Plan 2025-2031**

Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Determinations are being made regarding Proposed Material Alterations to the Portarlington Draft Joint Local Area Plan 2025-2031. Section 20 (3) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, requires, inter alia, a determination to be made as to whether Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Plan warrant the undertaking of SEA.

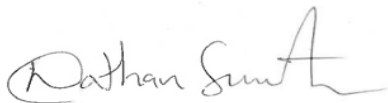
In carrying out this Screening for SEA, the following are been taken into account:

- Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Material Alterations to the Portarlington Draft Joint Local Area Plan 2025-2031, including consideration of criteria set out in Schedule 2A 'Criteria for determining whether a plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment' of the SEA Regulations, as amended;
- Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Portarlington Joint Local Area Plan 2025-2031;
- Screening for AA for the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Portarlington Joint Local Area Plan 2025-2031;
- SEA Environmental Report for the Portarlington Draft Joint Local Area Plan 2025-2031;
- AA Natura Impact Report for the Portarlington Draft Joint Local Area Plan 2025-2031; and
- Draft Portarlington Joint Local Area Plan 2025-2031.

The Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Material Alterations demonstrates that most Proposed Material Alterations will not result in likely significant effects. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan and the existing Laois and Offaly County Development Plans that provides for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development, it is identified that all potential effects arising from most Proposed Material Alterations: either are present already (beneficial) and will be further contributed towards; or will be mitigated so as not to be significant (adverse). In addition, some alterations merely added clarifications or amended context setting text for Plan provisions and these will not result in significant environmental effects. Consequently, the Proposed Material Alterations are advised as not requiring SEA. This report also demonstrates that Proposed Material Alteration No. 40 requires SEA and consideration in an SEA Environmental Report.

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above and in the Screening for SEA Report. The undersigned hereby determines pursuant to Section 20 (3) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that SEA is required for Proposed Material Alteration No. 40. The SEA will be completed by 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

**Signatory:**



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**Laois County Council**  
**April 2025**



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**Offaly County Council**